ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A digital camera and laser-based distance-measuring device are mounted on a patrol vehicle, street sweeping vehicle, or in a handheld harness. The patrol is performed along a route of parked vehicles to determine if any of them are in violation of parking regulations. Information about the offending vehicle is visually captured, recorded, and transferred via wireless communication to another site for further processing. For distance-based parking violations, visual data capture may include an image of a vehicle bumper in combination with a fire hydrant, driveway or other point of reference along with a super-imposed numerical readout of the measuring device to indicate that the offending vehicle is parked outside the limits of acceptability. For time-based parking violations, the image may be a combination of a parking sticker or registration from the windshield, a license plate from the front or rear of the vehicle, an image of the parking meter next to the vehicle, and can be overlaid with text indicating the date, time.

The flexibility of the system allows for multiple images to be combined in a manner that best captures the information required by the municipality to clearly indicate the culpability of the offending vehicle. Violations addressed are parking time limit expiration, illegal parking due to location restrictions, vehicle registration expiration, and violation of vehicle parking distance relative to various points of reference.